Major Astro's SPACE TALK

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SPACE PATROL 24

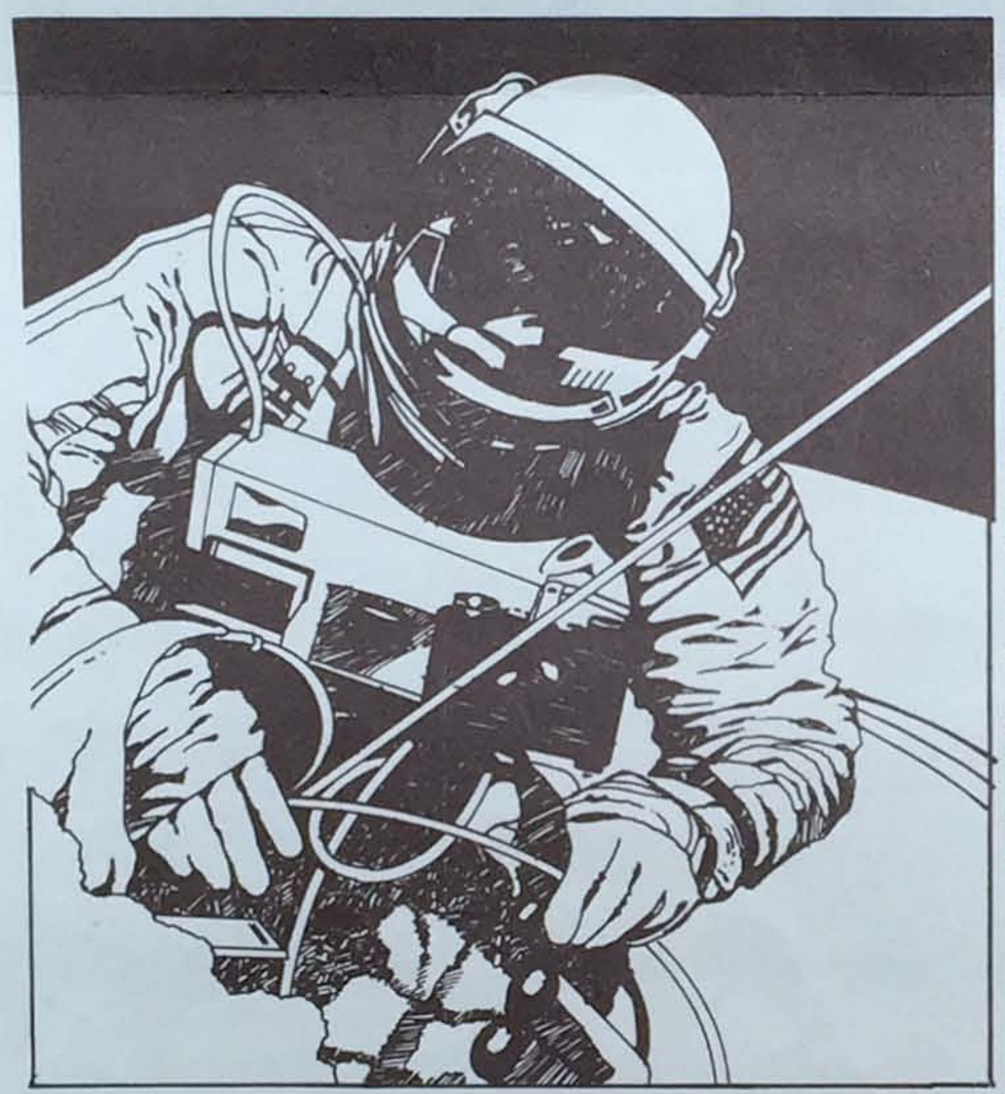
Dear Space Patrol 24 Member:

Well, here's our 2nd issue of Spacetalk and I believe you'll find it interesting...great info from the Wichita Omnisphere and Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, news on Uranus and Voyager II and YOUR opportunity to get some swell Space Patrol 24 things you Space Patrol 24 members have been asking me about!!

Good reading,

Major Astro

HAVE YOU DREAMED OF BECOMING AN ASTRONAUT?



Now's your chance. The Kansas Cosmosphere & Discovery Center in Hutchinson, Kansas is offering the FUTURE ASTRONAUT TRAINING PROGRAM, a summer space camp for students who will be entering the 7th, 8th or 9th grades.

As a participant, you will experience 5 days of intensive astronaut training, which includes training in the FALCON, the space shuttle simulator which will be used to "launch" your final mission. This means that each team will launch, carry out and land their own space craft at a site that is predetermined by teams in Mission Control. You'll experience the tension packed moments and live excitement of carrying out an actual mission!!

There's more...during the six sessions this summer at the Kansas Cosmosphere & Discovery Center in Hutchinson. The enrollment is limited, so sign up right away!!

For more information and a color brochure write to:

FUTURE ASTRONAUT TRAINING PROGRAM
c/o Kansas Cosmosphere & Discovery Center
1100 N. Plum
Hutchinson, Ks. 67501

AMAZING VOYAGER - SURPRISING URANUS!!

Voyager II has just passed by the upper layer of atmosphere of the 3rd largest planet in our Solar System, Uranus. The passby was on January 24th at a distance of 50,000 miles of this 7th planet from the Sun...and it's findings are startling!

At press time, we did not have the findings of this "close encounter" but as Voyager II approached the planet, it discovered it had a system of 9 faint rings...7 moons, never seen before...and what appears to be indications of "weather" on the planet!!

In our next Spacetalk, we'll report on more news about Uranus as Voyager I and II head toward Neptune and Pluto, the outermost planets.

DID COMETS KILL THE DINOSAURS?

Find out why scientists now believe this to be the most logical explanation for the end of the age of the dinosaurs when the Wichita Omnisphere presents ...Comets: Death Of The Dinosaurs. The show also includes an informative update on Halley's Comet. It starts February 8th thru April 27th and showtimes are on Thursday at noon and Saturdays and Sundays at 2, 3 and 4 PM. Admission is $2.50 for adults and $1.50 for children age 4-12...bring your Space Patrol 24 membership card and get in for just $1.00!!

The Omnisphere is located at 220 S. Main in Wichita.

SPACE PATROL 24 QUIZ

(A) How many "Moons" are there in our Solar System?

(B) Is our Sun one of the biggest stars in the Universe?

(C) What is Jupiter's giant Red Spot?

(D) What 2 planets in our Solar System are called "Twins"?

(E) Where is the coldest spot in our Solar System?

(F) Is the Earth Farthest from the Sun in the Wintertime?

Test yourself, boys and girls...write down your answers and then check the answers at the end of our newsletter. Grade yourself!!

MAJOR ASTRO'S CODED MESSAGE

LEG KYZTJUT EZ HJLVAMVO YZ UXMKI XMTVYB 20 UFYQ

(See back page for decoded message)

P.O. BOX 12324 WICHITA, KANSAS 67277

KSAS-TV 24 Home Town

Major Astro's SPACE TALK

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SPECIAL SPACE PATROL 24 QUIZ ON
HALLEY'S COMET

1. When was the first recorded sighting of Halley's Comet?

2. Why was the comet named after Edmund Halley in 1758?

3. Why does Halley's Comet only appear every 76 years?

4. What was Mark Twain's association with Halley's Comet?

5. When and where should you look for Halley's Comet in 1985 and 1986?

How many questions could you answer? For the answers, look on the back of this issue of Major Astro's Space Talk.

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DID YOU KNOW?

The planet Pluto, the 9th planet from our Sun, was discovered by a man who was born and raised in Kansas?

It's true!! Clyde Tombaugh (TUM-buh), a native Kansan, was working as an astronomer at the Lowell Observatory in Arizona when he discovered the tiny planet in 1930!!

NEWS FROM WICHITA'S OMNISPHERE

The Galaxy Hall show for DECEMBER and JANUARY is the return of THE SPARKY SHOW ... the popular live science demonstrations; hair-raising antics that are a real "shocking" experience!!

For only 50¢ per person, you can join the fun on Saturday and Sundays at 1:30 p.m.

Space Patrol 24 Members ... show your membership card and get in FREE!!

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The Omnisphere will present "A COMET CALLED HALLEY," November 2nd through January 26th on Thursday at noon and Saturdays and Sundays at 2, 3 and 4 p.m.

Admission is $2.00 for adults and $1.50 for students, age 6 through 18.

Space Patrol 24 Members ... show your membership card and get in for ONLY $1.00!!

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MAJOR ASTRO'S CODED MESSAGE

AMDYU MVTUY YZ VMTSUJMOV VTMUTV EZ DMZSMUO!!
(see back page for decoded message)

P.O. BOX 12324 WICHITA, KANSAS 67277

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COMET HALLEY CAN'T BE SEEN IN FEBRUARY, BUT WILL RETURN IN MARCH AND APRIL

Halley's Comet is behind the Sun in February, but during the last week of February it reappears in the early morning in the east with a bright star-like head and possibly a long tail. During the end of the month of March, Comet Halley will display its long tail in the southeastern sky just before the first light of dawn.

Toward the end of the first week of April, when the bright moon stops interfering with the viewing of the Comet, Halley will be as bright as it will get! Unfortunately, it will then be very low in the southern sky, so find a place where you can get a very good view of the southern horizon with no trees or buildings in the way.

Jose Olivarez
Omnisphere Director

(Our thanks to Jose for taking the time to contribute to this issue of SPACETALK)

SPACE PATROL 24 QUIZ ANSWERS

(A) There are 40 Moons in our Solar System!! Earth has 1, Mars has 2, Jupiter has 18, Saturn has 10 (not counting the rings), Neptune has 2, and Pluto has 1...a giant moon!! Uranus has 12 (seven new ones, just discovered).

(B) Our Sun is classified as one of the smaller stars!! Rigel, is 60,000 times larger than our Sun!!

(C) The Red Spot is a massive hurricane in the atmosphere that has been raging for years!!

(D) Earth and Venus...because they are similar in size.

(E) The closest planet to the Sun, Mercury...since one side is AWAY from the Sun most of the time.

(F) No...it is CLOSER to the Sun in the wintertime. However, the Sun's rays hit the Earth at a more slanted angle and the surface is not warmed directly.

GRADE YOURSELF

4 to 6 correct answers:
"You've done your homework!"

2 to 4 correct answers:
"Back to the books!"

0 to 2 correct answers:
"Come on...you've got to be kidding!"

DECODED MAJOR ASTRO'S MESSAGE

BIG CONTEST IN FEBRUARY ON SPACE PATROL 24 SHOW

Major Astro's
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WICHITA, KANSAS 67277

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
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Andover, Kansas
Permit No. 7

Major Astro's SPACE PATROL 24 SPECIALS!!

OFFICIAL SPACE PATROL 24 T SHIRTS...great quality, rugged and made to wear!! ONLY $5.99 Check box for your size:

☐ small ☐ medium ☐ large

Quantity ☐

MAJOR ASTRO MUGS...keeps your drinks hot or cold, made of "hard to break" plastic. Order as many as you want!! ONLY $1.89 each.

Quantity ☐

SPACE PATROL 24 STICKERS...9 colorful "stick ons". Put 'em on your notebook, bike, jacket...anywhere!! ONLY $1.75 a sheet.

Quantity ☐

X-24 ORBITER FRISBEE...Regulation size, tough and a collectors FIRST in a series!! JUST $1.95 each.

Quantity ☐

Order today!! Handling, postage included...Send CHECK or MONEY ORDER...NO cash.

Include your name and address and send to:

SPACE PATROL 24 SPECIALS
P.O. BOX 12324
WICHITA, KANSAS 67277

Allow 2 to 4 weeks for delivery.

ANSWERS TO HALLEY'S COMET QUIZ

1. In 240 BC - over 2,000 years ago!
2. He predicted when it would return.
3. 76 years is the length of the comet's orbit around the Sun.
4. Twain was born when it appeared in 1835 and died when it reappeared in 1910!
5. You can see it with the naked eye in the Southwestern sky right after Christmas and in January. Then, again, in late March and early April in the EARLY morning South-Southeast part of the sky.

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DECODED MAJOR ASTRO MESSAGE

Major Astro on Saturdays starts in January!!

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Happy Orbits,
Major Astro

KSAS-TV 24 Home Town

SPACE TALK

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